

JACK DOYLE MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

For Immediate Release Friday, April 25, 2003

DOYLE ANNOUNCES SINGLE PHONE LINE TO ASSIST MILITARY FAMILIES WITH INQUIRIES

County's Veterans Service Agency Connects with Multiple Agencies

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle has announced the establishment of a telephone information line to provide assistance to family members of the men and women currently serving on active duty in the Armed Forces.

"When loved ones are far from home and in harms way, its important that family members have some support and know where to get information," said Doyle. "Even as hostilities start to calm down in Iraq, we need to remember that many local members of the military will remain away from home and many more will be called to active duty or deployed overseas. Anything we can do to help provide assistance to the families who remain behind is important."

The telephone number to call for information is 274-8021. The County's Veterans' Service Agency will take calls at the information line Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and work to answer any questions military family members may have. The agency will also work with other governmental agencies and private organizations to connect callers with services.

Furthermore, family members will have the option to leave their contact information, adding it into a database. Any additional military information received by the Veterans Service Agency can then be easily relayed. In addition, families may be notified if and when any support groups or events arise, whether Monroe County or other organizations sponsor them. Organizations wishing to plan events for families can call the above number and leave information about their event.

###

For further information, call: Communications and Special Events, 428-2380 See us on the Web at www.monroecounty.gov